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US-A- 4 348 210

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## Description

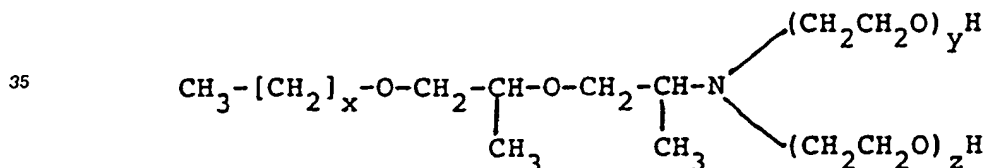
The invention relates to organic inhibitor treating solutions and a method for using such solutions to reduce corrosion from the harsh fluid environments encountered in the oil field. More particularly, the invention concerns treating solutions containing an ethoxylated, propoxylated alkylphenol amine, which are effective in reducing sweet and sour corrosion.

Corrosion that occurs in an oil field environment is extremely complex and tends to attack all manner of metal equipment above and below ground. The principle corrosive agents found in the well fluids include hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, oxygen, organic acids and solubilized salts. These agents may be present individually or in combination with each other. Valves, fittings, tubing, pumps, precipitators, pipelines, sucker rods, and other producing equipment are particularly susceptible. Deposits of rust, scale, corrosion byproducts, paraffin and other substances create ideal environments for concentration cells. Carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide induced pitting is encouraged by such deposits. Acidic condensate that collects on metal tubing will also cause pitting. Extreme temperatures and pressures in downhole environments further accelerate corrosion.

Very often as oil fields mature and enhanced recovery methods such as water flooding and miscible flooding are instituted, the concentrations of hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide in the well fluids increases dramatically. This increase in concentration and the resultant increase in sweet corrosion or sour corrosion may make older oil fields economically unattractive due to excessive corrosion costs.

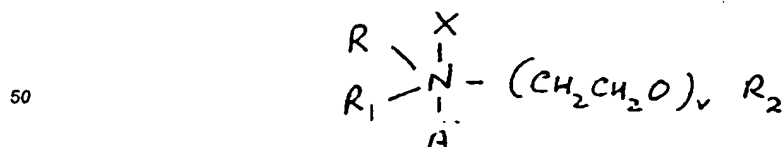
Various surfactants have been employed for many years to inhibit corrosion or to improve the performance of certain organic corrosion inhibitor systems. Surfactants are generally added to inhibitor systems to perform the different functions of (1) solubilizing the corrosion inhibitor or other active ingredients, (2) clean the surface of the metal to be protected or treated, and (3) improving the penetration of the active ingredients into the microscopic pores of the metal.

Ethoxylated alcohols and ethoxylated amines of various structures are common surfactants employed in corrosion inhibition systems. Four examples of such surfactant compounds are provided by U. S. Patent Nos. 3,110,683; 3,623,979; 4,435,361 and 4,420,414. No. 3,110,683 discloses a series of alkylated, halogenated, sulfonated, diphenyl oxides and No. 3,623,979 discloses a series of imidazolyl polymeric acid amides. The use of dicyclopentadiene sulfonate salts is disclosed in 4,435,361. Ethoxylated tertiary amines represented by the formula



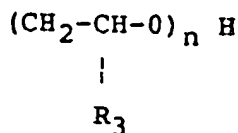
wherein x is 9-11 and the sum of (y + z) is 2-50 are described and claimed in US-A-4420414. All four of the above corrosion inhibition patents disclose oil-dispersible inhibiting systems which form a film over the metal parts to be treated. They are not water soluble systems.

US-A-3141905 discloses certain hydroxy-terminated polyoxyalkylene derivatives of quaternary ammonium compounds having the structure



wherein R and R<sub>1</sub> are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl,  
R<sub>2</sub> is



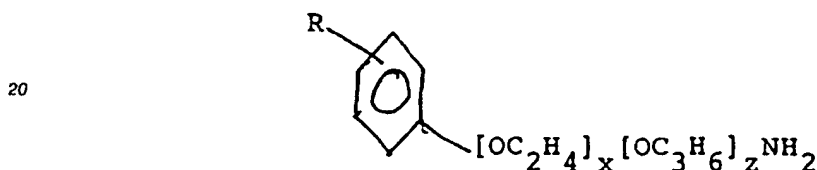


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wherein  $\text{R}_3$  is  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$  alkyl, and  $n$  is a number up to 60,  $\text{R}_2$  containing at least 18 carbon atoms and the weight ratio of  $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_n$  to  $\text{R}_2$  being not greater than 1 to 4,  $\text{X}$  is  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$  alkyl or alkenyl,  $\text{C}_7$ - $\text{C}_9$  aliphatic-aryl hydrocarbon, or sulfo- or chloro-substituted aromatic, and  $\text{A}$  is an anion.

These compounds are stated, but not demonstrated, to have "purposes for which certain heretofore known cationic surface active agents have been employed or suggested for use", as well as being "useful for bactericidal, germicidal, antiseptic, algacidal, fungicidal, textile softening, corrosion, inhibition, antistatic, emulsifying, foam modifying, and ore beneficiation properties".

15 A series of water soluble, or at least water-dispersible, corrosion inhibiting solutions are disclosed which contain an ethoxylated, propoxylated alkylphenol amine represented by the formula



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wherein  $\text{R}$  is an alkyl group containing 5 to 12 carbon atoms,  $x$  equal 3 to 15, and  $z$  equals 2 to 10, or a salt thereof obtained by reaction thereof with an organic acid. It has been discovered that the use of these particular alkoxyated alkylphenol amines dramatically reduces oil field corrosion rates.

A preferred corrosion inhibiting solution of the invention contains 2 ppm to 70% by volume of the alkoxyated alkylphenol amine by volume in a solvent which may be water, brine or a hydrocarbon such as alcohol. It is preferred that the alkoxyated alkylphenol amine be used in a continuous treatment wherein the metal to be protected from corrosion is contacted with 3 to 200 ppm of the amine in a continuous treatment. The amine, however, can be stored and shipped in solutions with concentrations ranging up to and greater than 70% alkoxyated alkylphenol amine by volume.

For treating sweet corrosion problems, it is most preferred to react the alkoxyated alkylphenol amine with an organic acid selected from the group consisting of hydroxyacetic acid, a fatty acid, a dicarboxylic acid, a dimer-trimer acid, a phosphate ester and mixtures thereof to form a salt and then use that salt in a continuous exposure treatment. This reaction product combination is also effective in treating sour corrosion environments. Furthermore, the acid/amine reaction product behaves very similarly to the amine alone. Unless otherwise noted, it should be presumed that a discussion of either the acid/amine reaction product or the amine will also apply to the other.

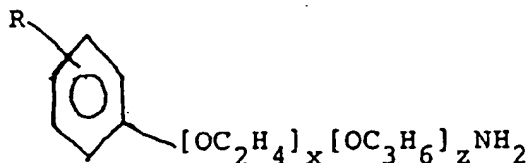
Optionally, the reaction of the amine with the organic acid may take place at an elevated temperature to form an amide derivative, which has similar corrosion inhibiting properties. Of course, the alkoxyated alkylphenol amines may also be combined with other-organic corrosion inhibiting systems to produce excellent results.

Metal equipment can be protected through the use of the corrosion inhibiting solutions of the present invention by contacting metal with an effective amount of inhibiting solution containing the alkoxyated alkylphenol amines of the instant formula or the reaction product of said amines and an organic acid in a continuous exposure treatment. Solution concentration preferably should be in the range of 3 ppm to 200 ppm in a continuous exposure treatment.

Perhaps the most costly problem in an oil field environment is corrosion of piping and equipment due to sweet and sour corrosion. It has been discovered that the additions of small amounts of a particular group of ethoxylated, propoxylated alkylphenol amines effectively inhibits corrosion from both carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide.

Although this invention comprises corrosion inhibiting solutions containing 2 ppm to 70% by volume of the instant amine, the amine is preferably delivered to the corrosion sites in a continuous treating solution containing 3 ppm to 200 ppm of the amine having the formula





wherein R is an alkyl group containing 5 to 12 carbon atoms, x equals 3 to 15, and z equals 2 to 10.

10 The instant amines most preferred for use in the invention corrosion inhibiting solutions are those amines of the given formula wherein R is an alkyl group containing 7 to 10 carbon atoms, x equals 4 to 11 and z equals 2 to 5. The alkyl group containing 5 to 12 carbon atoms is necessary to add non-polar material to the compound. The elimination of the alkyl group makes the compound too water soluble. It is believed that there would not be enough non-polar material to keep the aqueous phase off the metal, if the  
15 R group was absent. The isomeric positions of the alkyl group and the chain of alkylene oxide groups on the aromatic ring is thought to be unimportant.

The structure of the amine may be varied to tailor the compound to individual requirements. When 3 or less ethylene oxide groups are employed in the compound, the compound loses water solubility. Where x is greater than 12, the performance of the compound starts dropping off. Although the overall amounts of  
20 corrosion do not increase substantially, localized corrosion such as pitting occurs. Furthermore, stressed areas such as laboratory coupon edges become more susceptible to attack. It is believed that the same would occur with stressed areas such as piping joints in the field. Thus, 4 to 11 ethylene oxide groups are preferred. As the number of propylene oxide groups increases, the compound becomes more oil soluble and less water soluble.

25 The amine compounds used in the invention corrosion systems may be prepared by the reaction of ethylene and propylene oxide with an alkylphenol in varying ratios. The resulting compound is then subjected to reductive amination in the presence of ammonia and hydrogen to produce the instant amine.

The effectiveness of a given organic inhibitor system generally increases with the concentration, but because of cost considerations, most solutions when fully diluted in their working environment must be  
30 effective in quantities of less than 0.01% by weight (100 ppm). The invention solution is effective throughout the range of 3 ppm to 200 ppm in a continuous injection method, with higher concentrations generally producing greater protection. Although it may not be cost effective, the invention inhibiting solution may be employed in the field with 1% by volume of the amine, acid/amine reaction product, or amide.

It is desirable to store and transport the invention corrosion solution with higher amine or organic acid  
35 reaction product concentrations, such as 1% to 70% by volume, preferably 15% to 60% by volume of the solution. Most of the amines of the instant formula are 100% soluble in water. The acid/amine reaction products and the amides are generally less soluble. But all are soluble or highly dispersible in water alone at the treating concentrations of 2 ppm to 1%. When higher concentrations are used for storage and transportation, it may be necessary to add some alcohol to the water solvent to maintain the active  
40 ingredient in solution. With only water as a solvent at these higher concentrations, settling problems may occur which would make dilution and use in the field quite difficult. For handling ease and to save volume and shipping costs, concentrations are preferably 30% to 70% water, 5% to 25% alcohol, and 15% to 60% of active ingredient by volume of solution.

In higher concentrations of 15% to 60% by volume of the instant amine, it is preferred that the solvent  
45 contain at least some portion of a lower molecular weight alcohol to maintain solubility, or at least dispersion, of the amine. This avoids physical handling problems in the field. Practically any alcohol may be used as a solvent, but lower molecular weight alcohols are preferred, primarily because of their low cost. Isopropanol and ethylene glycol are two of the most preferred alcohol solvents.

For example, a drum containing a solution of 25% by volume of the instant amine in 75% solvent  
50 should preferably have a solvent system of about 85% water and 15% alcohol. With the water to alcohol ratio of 90/10, solubility will probably be achieved, but phase separation may occur. Thus, a water/alcohol ratio of 85/15 is desired.

Isopropanol is a preferred alcohol solvent because of its cost. Methanol, ethanol, propanol, butanol and pentanol may all be used. Ethylene glycol and propylene glycol are also preferred alcohol solvents because  
55 they can be mixed with isopropanol or the other alcohols to lower the flash point and pour point of the solution. Consequently, a representative concentrated solution might be 25% amine in a 75% solvent of 5% isopropanol, 15% ethylene glycol and 55% water. Of course, much larger amounts of alcohol may be employed, but water is preferred because of its cost.



The ethoxylated, propoxylated alkylphenol amine may be employed as is in the solvent system or reacted with an organic acid selected from the group consisting of hydroxyacetic acid, a fatty acid, a dicarboxylic acid, a dimer-trimer acid, a phosphate ester, or mixtures thereof. When this acid/amine reaction is carried out at ambient temperature, a salt is formed which is very effective in controlling corrosion when employed in approximately the same concentrations as the alkoxylated alkylphenol amine itself, preferably 3 ppm to 200 ppm.

The organic acid and amine are reacted in the stoichiometric proportions of about 0.65/1 acid/amine ratio to about 1/0.6 acid/amine ratio, most preferably about 0.9/1 to about 1/0.7 acid/amine ratio. When the reaction is conducted with excess amine, such as an acid/amine ratio of 0.75/1, better corrosion control results are achieved at the cost of more viscosity and a higher expense. The amine compound is substantially more costly than the acid. It is believed that the extra protection conferred by excess amine is unlikely to be worth the excess cost in most cases. Generally, the level of corrosion protection decreases with an acid to amine ratio higher than 1/1.

Viscosity problems were encountered with some of the 1/1 acid/amine reaction products and increased as the acid/amine ratio decreased. These can be solved by adding a small amount of a viscosity reducing additive to the solution, such as a low molecular weight sulfonate. Success was achieved in the laboratory with the addition of 5% by weight of sodium dicyclopentadiene sulfonate or sodium xylene sulfonate. When 0.75/1 acid/amine reaction products were used with 5% of the viscosity reducing additive, no viscosity problems existed.

The invention corrosion inhibition system may also be prepared by reacting the acid and amine at a temperature greater than 75°C, preferably greater than 150°C, to form an amide. Amide inhibitors are less preferred, however, due to their lower water solubility than the comparable salt derivatives and the higher manufacturing costs required for amide synthesis.

The organic acids preferred for reaction with the amine of the instant formula are hydroxyacetic acid, fatty acids having about 16 to about 20 carbon atoms, dicarboxylic acids having about 19 to about 23 carbon atoms, various dimer-trimer acids, and phosphate esters having an alkylphenol group with about 2 to about 20 ethylene oxide groups which behave like acids.

Examples of the organic acids include: Pamak WCFA, a trademarked fatty acid having about 16 to 18 carbon atoms and an acid number of 178 sold by Hercules, Inc.; Arizona 7002, a trademarked dimer-trimer acid with an acid number of 142 sold by Arizona Chemical Co.; Emery 1022, a trademarked dimer-trimer acid having about 80% dimer acid and 20% trimer acid, sold by Emery Industries and having an equivalent weight of 291; Diacid 1550, a trademarked dicarboxylic acid having about 21 carbon atoms and an equivalent weight of about 303 sold by Westvaco Corp.; Century D-75, a trademarked dimer-trimer acid with about 16 to about 18 carbon atoms and an equivalent weight of 379 sold by Union Camp Corp. (Century D-75 averages about 24% monomer, 33% dimer, and 43% trimer or higher); Westvaco L-5, a trademarked tall oil fatty acid having about 16 to 18 carbon atoms and equivalent weight of 295 sold by Westvaco Corp.; and Wayfos M-100, a trademarked organic phosphate ester with a nonylphenol group having 10 ethylene oxide groups and an equivalent weight of about 416 sold by Phillip A. Hunt Chemical Corp.

Although the corrosion inhibiting solutions will work effectively containing the instant amine alone, the acid/amine reaction product, or the amide reaction product, the most preferred corrosion inhibiting solution for a sour hydrogen sulfide environment is the alkoxylated alkylphenol amine alone in solvent or the amine reacted with hydroxyacetic acid in solution. The reaction product of the amine and hydroxyacetic acid, however, did not work well in a sweet corrosion environment. With carbon dioxide corrosion, the best results were achieved with the acid/amine reaction product.

The amine of the formula can also be reacted with a phosphate ester having an alkylphenol group with about 2 to about 20 ethylene oxide groups. This acid/amine reaction product is extremely effective at low concentrations of about 3 ppm to about 200 ppm in controlling scale as well as sour and sweet corrosion.

The amine was reacted with Wayfos M-100, a phosphate ester with a nonylphenol group having ten ethylene oxide groups. The reaction product gave over 95% inhibition against scale and sour corrosion and over 85% inhibition against sweet corrosion all at concentrations below 50 ppm. In fact, 92% calcium sulfate scale inhibition was achieved at only 13 ppm. The amine/phosphate ester salt prevented scale but the amide and the instant amines alone were ineffective.

The corrosion inhibiting solutions of the invention which contain the instant ethoxylated, propoxylated alkylphenol amines may be employed in different locations in the oil field. Since the solutions offer substantial improvement over present inhibitor systems, they may be used to protect downhole piping and equipment in situations such as subsurface water injection for pressure maintenance, water disposal systems or drilling and production applications, as well as in above-ground, oil or water flow lines and equipment. The invention solution may be employed to inhibit corrosion by continuous injection. In a



continuous injection treatment, the active ingredient of the corrosion inhibiting solution is maintained at the required levels of treatment, preferably 5 ppm to 300 ppm, in areas where corrosive fluids contact the metallic parts desired to be protected.

- At present, an industry established procedure for testing oil field corrosion inhibitors does not exist.
- 5 Because of widely varying corrosion conditions in the oil field, it is impractical to establish a universal standard laboratory test. But it is desirable to have tests that are easily duplicated and can approximate the continuous type of liquid and gas exposure that occurs in wells and flow lines in the oil field. One test simulating field usage has achieved some following in the industry. The continuous exposure procedure set forth in January 1968 issue of "Material Protections" at pages 34-35 was followed to test the subject
- 10 invention. The test offers an excellent indication of the ability of corrosion inhibitors to protect metals immersed in either sweet or sour fluids.

A second test was generally followed for evaluating scale inhibition against gypsum or calcium sulfate deposition. The test is described in detail in "Corrosion", Vol. 17 (5), pp 232t-236t (1961) with modifications described below.

- 15 The following examples will further illustrate the novel corrosion treating solutions of the present invention containing said alkoxyated alkylphenol amines. These examples are given by way of illustration and not as limitations on the scope of the invention. Thus, it should be understood that materials present in the corrosion treating solutions may be varied to achieve similar results within the scope of the invention.

## 20 EXAMPLES

### General Test Procedure

- The metal specimens were immersed in sweet or sour fluid environments for seventy-two (72) hours to approximate continuous exposure conditions in the oil field. The sweet fluid test environment was established by gassing the test solution with carbon dioxide. A sour fluid test environment was created by bubbling hydrogen sulfide through the test solution. The specimens were tested in both carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide environments with and without the claimed amines.

- The metal test specimens were cold-rolled, mild steel coupons which measured 3 inches (76mm) by 0.5 inches (12.5mm) by 0.005 inches (0.125mm). These coupons were initially cleaned in order to remove any surface film, dried and then weighed.

- Four ounce (114 ml) glass bottles were filled with two types of test solutions. The first simulated an oil-brine environment and consisted of 10 milliliters of Texaco EDM fluid, a Texaco trademarked lube oil cut having an API gravity of about 39° (0.83 g/ml), 90 milliliters of a 10% synthetic brine and 1 milliliter of dilute (6%) acetic acid. The synthetic brine contained 10% sodium chloride and 0.5% calcium chloride by weight. The second test solution simulated a brine environment and was composed of 100 milliliters of the same 10% synthetic brine and 1 milliliter of dilute acetic acid. The oil-brine and brine test solutions were then gassed for 5 to 10 minutes with carbon dioxide to create a sweet test environment or hydrogen sulfide to create a sour test environment. The solution gassing was designed to remove any dissolved oxygen as well as create the sweet or sour environment. Next, a measured concentration of the amine, amide, or acid/amine reaction product was placed in the bottles.

- The steel test coupons were then placed within the bottles. The bottles were capped and mounted on the spokes of a 58 cm (23 inch) diameter, vertically mounted wheel and rotated for 72 hours at 30 rpm inside an oven maintained at 49° C. The coupons were removed from the bottles, washed and scrubbed with dilute acid for cleaning purposes, dried and weighed. The corrosion rate in mils per year (mpy) was then calculated from the weight loss. One mpy is equivalent to 0.25 mm (0.001 inches) of metal lost per year to corrosion. Additionally, the test coupons were visually inspected for the type of corrosive attack, e.g., hydrogen blistering, pitting and crevice corrosion or general corrosion.

- The laboratory tests for calcium sulfate scaling were performed with the testing apparatus of the "Corrosion" article mentioned above, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. The procedure discussed in the Corrosion Article was loosely followed, with some differences as noted below. The apparatus deposits scale on heated stainless steel rotors that turn in water solutions of the scale forming minerals of calcium sulfate. Cylindrical electric heaters were mounted in the shafts to fit inside the rotor tubes which are slip fitted onto the shafts. A chain and pulley arrangement drove the rotor shafts from the variable speed motor. Line voltage for the variable speed motor was controlled by a variable transformer and a rheostat was employed to control the heaters.

In preparation for the tests, the rotors were cleaned with steel wool, rinsed with deionized water and acetone, and dried. Just prior to use, the rotors were filmed with a dilute stearic acid solution (1000



ppm in toluene) and dried. Beakers containing the scaling solutions were placed in position to submerge the rotors. The surface of the scaling solution was finally covered with mineral oil to prevent evaporation. Rotation of the rotors was commenced and the test conducted at about 40°C (105°F) for 10 - 16 hours.

Two separate stock solutions were prepared and mixed to yield the final scaling test solution. One solution (Solution A) contained 468 g NaCl, 121.5 g  $\text{CaCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and 9722 ml of deionized water. The second solution (Solution B) contained 130.05 g of anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  diluted to one liter with deionized water. Utilizing these amounts yielded test solutions which contained 50,000 ppm NaCl and 10,000 ppm  $\text{CaSO}_4$ .

Each beaker in a scaling test contained 440 ml of Solution A, 40 ml of Solution B and sufficient inhibitor diluted into 20 ml of deionized water to yield the desired test concentration. For example, to obtain a 10 ppm inhibitor concentration, 5 ml of 10,000 ppm inhibitor stock solution 15 ml of deionized water would be added to the test beaker.

Upon completion of the tests, the rotors were removed from the test apparatus, rinsed with acetone, and dried. The scale adhering to the rotors was scraped off the rotor surface and then weighed. Percent inhibition was determined by comparing the amount of deposition in uninhibited solutions (blanks) to the amount in inhibited solutions. A standard value of 1.5001 g  $\text{CaSO}_4$  was used for the blank.

#### EXAMPLES 1-13

Two of the ethoxylated, propoxylated alkylphenol amines were employed in the following examples. Inhibitor A in the examples is an amine of the instant formula wherein R is an alkyl group having 9 carbon atoms, x is about 9.5 and z is about 3. Inhibitor B in the examples denotes an amine of the instant formula wherein R is an alkyl group with 9 carbon atoms, x is about 4 and z is about 3.

Examples 1-6 were tested in the sweet environment under two different fluid conditions, an oil-brine fluid and a brine fluid composed as described above. Each inhibitor was reacted with an acid to produce a salt or amide which was then placed in the oil-brine or brine fluid at concentrations of 8 ppm and 16 ppm. Percentage reduction in corrosion can be calculated by subtracting the results of Table 1 from the corrosion rates without any corrosion inhibiting solution (blank) which are given in Examples 7 and 8, dividing the difference by the blank value and multiplying by 100. Most examples provided greater than 80% protection in the sweet environment.

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TABLE I

5	Inhibitor	Continuous Sweet Tests [mpy/(mmpy)]			
		Oil-Brine		Brine	
		8 ppm	16 ppm	8 ppm	16 ppm
10	Ex. 1 Westvaco L-5 plus Inhibitor A in a 1/1 Acid/Amine Ratio	4.48 (0.114)	2.64 (0.067)	2.60 (0.066)	2.20 (0.056)
	Ex. 2 Century D-75 plus Inhibitor A in a 1/1 Acid/Amine Ratio	1.48 (0.038)	0.80 (0.020)	3.48 (0.088)	2.40 (0.061)
15	Ex. 3 Diacid 1550 plus Inhibitor A in a 1/1 Acid/Amine Ratio	1.36 (0.035)	1.00 (0.025)	3.24 (0.082)	2.88 (0.073)
20	Ex. 4 Wayfos M-100 plus Inhibitor A in a 1/1 Acid/Amine Ratio	1.96 (0.050)	1.40 (0.036)	4.00 (0.102)	3.84 (0.098)
25	Ex. 5 Westvaco L-5 plus Inhibitor A in a 1/0.75 Acid/Amine Ratio	6.68 (0.170)	4.28 (0.109)	2.76 (0.070)	2.92 (0.074)
	Ex. 6 Westvaco L-5 plus Inhibitor A in a 1/1 Acid/Amine Ratio	-	2.80 (0.071)	-	2.16 (0.055)
30	Ex. 7 None	12.2 (0.310)			
	Ex. 8 None			13.6 (0.345)	
35	mpy = mil per year				
	mmpy = millimetre per year				

40 Examples 9 and 10 were multiple tests performed on two inhibitor systems in a sweet corrosion environment at different inhibitor concentration levels. All of these tests were performed in a brine environment which was comprised of 100 ml brine and 1 ml of dilute acetic acid. Again, the blank corrosion rate without any organic inhibitor was 13.6 mpy (0.345 mmpy). Table II lists the results.

TABLE II

45	Inhibitor	Continuous Sweet Tests In Brine (mpy)				
		3 ppm	7 ppm	16 ppm	33 ppm	83 ppm
50	Ex. 9 Inhibitor A	5.44 (0.138)	5.00 (0.127)	3.92 (0.100)	3.28 (0.083)	3.20 (0.081)
	Ex. 10 Westvaco L-5 plus Inhibitor A in a 1/0.75 ratio	4.80 (0.122)	3.48 (0.088)	3.04 (0.077)	2.64 (0.067)	2.24 (0.057)
55						

Table II indicates that the salt formed by the reaction of the instant amine and the tall oil fatty acid was





much more effective in preventing corrosion in the sweet environment than the amine alone. At 16 ppm the protection level for the salt reached 78%. At higher concentrations of inhibitor, much greater protection was obtained.

#### 5 EXAMPLES 11-13

The instant amines, identified as Inhibitor A and Inhibitor B, above, were tested in a sour environment for inhibition of hydrogen sulfide corrosion. Table III below lists the results.

10

TABLE III

	<u>Inhibitor</u>	<u>Continuous Sour Tests [mpy/(mmpy)]</u>				
		<u>3 ppm</u>	<u>7 ppm</u>	<u>16 ppm</u>	<u>33 ppm</u>	<u>83 ppm</u>
15 Ex. 11	Inhibitor A	4.68	2.64	2.60	2.52	2.48
		(0.119)	(0.067)	(0.066)	(0.064)	(0.063)
Ex. 12	Inhibitor B	3.00	2.40	4.20	4.08	2.92
		(0.076)	(0.061)	(0.107)	(0.104)	(0.100)
20 Ex. 13	None			55.2 (holes) mpy	(holes)	
				(1.402 mmpy)		

Excellent results were achieved in hydrogen sulfide corrosion control with the use of Inhibitors A and B. Once the concentration of the inhibitor was raised to 7 ppm or better, hydrogen sulfide corrosion was almost completely eliminated. Corrosion protection rates were 95% or better for almost every concentration greater than 7 ppm for both Inhibitors A and B. At the remarkably low and cost efficient concentration of 7 ppm, 95.2% protection was achieved with Inhibitor A and 95.7% protection was achieved with Inhibitor B. Problems existed with the tests at 16 ppm and 33 ppm for Inhibitor B. Holes and high corrosion rates were observed in the coupons. It is believed that air probably got into these two test bottles and ruined those two tests.

#### EXAMPLE 14

Wayfos M-100, a trademarked phosphate ester with a nonylphenol group having 10 ethylene oxides groups sold by Phillip A. Hunt Chemical Corp., was reacted with Inhibitor A to produce a salt compound that was quite effective in calcium sulfate scale control. The scaling test described at the beginning of the examples was followed in the laboratory to produce the results of Table IV at different concentrations.

40

TABLE IV

	<u>CaSO<sub>4</sub> Scaling Tests (% Inhibition)</u>						
	<u>1 ppm</u>	<u>2 ppm</u>	<u>3 ppm</u>	<u>5 ppm</u>	<u>7 ppm</u>	<u>8 ppm</u>	<u>13 ppm</u>
50 Ex. 14	0%	0%	27.5%	49.9%	64.3%	82.2%	92%

The combination of Inhibitor A and the organic phosphate produce superior calcium sulfate scale control at low concentrations. Ninety-two percent protection against calcium sulfate scale was achieved at only 13 ppm concentration of inhibitor. Although the compound was only tested for calcium sulfate scale inhibition, it is believed to be also effective against calcium carbonate scale. Compounds that are this effective against calcium sulfate scale are almost always effective in carbonate scale control.

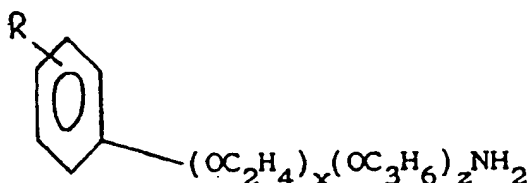


## Claims

1. A water-dispersible corrosion inhibiting solution comprising:

a solvent; and characterised by

2 ppm to 1% by volume of an ethoxylated propoxylated alkylphenol amine represented by the formula

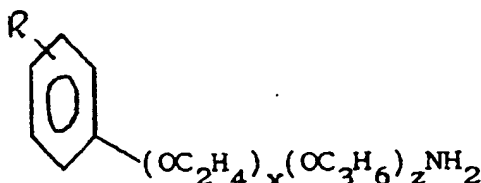


wherein R is an alkyl group containing 5 to 12 carbon atoms, x equals 3 to 15, and z equals 2 to 10; or a salt of said ethoxylated propoxylated alkylphenol amine obtained by reaction thereof with an organic acid.

2. A water-dispersible corrosion inhibiting solution comprising;

0% to 99% by volume of water;

0% to 99% by volume of an alcohol; and characterised by 1% to 70% by volume of an ethoxylated propoxylated alkylphenol amine represented by the formula



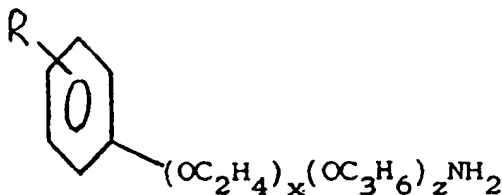
wherein R is an alkyl group containing 5 to 12 carbon atoms, x equals 3 to 15, and z equals 2 to 10; or a salt of said ethoxylated propoxylated alkylphenol amine obtained by reaction thereof with an organic acid.

3. The corrosion inhibiting solution of Claim 1 or Claim 2 characterised in that R is an alkyl group containing 7 to 10 carbon atoms, x equals 4 to 11 and z equals 2 to 5.
4. The corrosion inhibiting solution of any of Claims 1 to 3 characterised in that the concentration of said amine is 3 ppm to 200 ppm.
5. The corrosion inhibiting solution of any preceding Claim, characterised in that the organic acid is selected from hydroxyacetic acid, a fatty acid, a dicarboxylic acid, a phosphate ester, a dimer-trimer acid and mixtures thereof, and in that said organic acid and amine have been reacted in the proportions of 0.65/1 acid to amine to 1/0.6 acid to amine.
6. The corrosion inhibiting solution of any of the preceding Claims characterised in that the acid and amine have been reacted at a temperature greater than 75°C.
7. The corrosion inhibiting solution of any preceding Claim characterised in that the organic acid is selected from a dicarboxylic acid having 19 to 23 carbon atoms, a fatty acid having 16 to 20 carbon atoms, a dimer-trimer acid having 32 to 54 carbon atoms, or a phosphate ester having an alkylphenol group with 2 to 20 ethylene oxide groups.



8. The corrosion inhibiting solution of Claim 2 wherein the alcohol is selected from methanol, ethanol, propanol, isopropanol, butanol, pentanol, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

9. A method of protecting a metal from corrosive agents in hydrocarbon and aqueous fluids which comprises contacting said metal with an effective amount of a compound represented by the formula



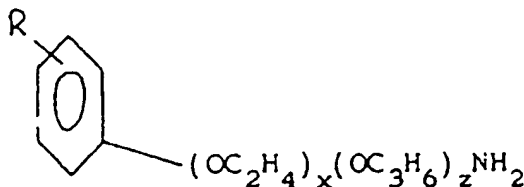
wherein R is an alkyl group containing 5 to 12 carbon atoms, x equals 3 to 15, and z equals 2 to 10, or a salt of said compound obtained by reaction thereof with an organic acid.

10. A method according to Claim 9 characterised in that the organic acid is selected from hydroxyacetic acid, a fatty acid, a dicarboxylic acid, a dimer-trimer acid, a phosphate ester, and mixtures thereof and in that said organic acid and amine have been reacted in the proportions of 0.65/1 acid/amine to 1/0.6 acid to amine.

11. The method of Claim 9 or 10 wherein said acid/amine reaction product is mixed with fluid so that a concentration of 3 ppm to 300 ppm of said compound continuously contacts the metal.

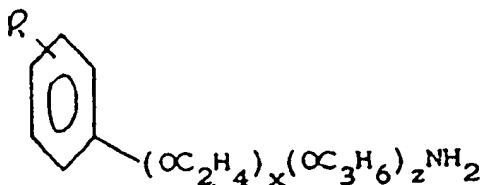
#### Revendications

1. Solution inhibitrice de corrosion dispersible dans l'eau, comprenant :  
un solvant ; et caractérisée en ce qu'elle comprend :  
2 ppm à 1 % en volume d'une (alkylphénol éthoxylé et propoxylé) amine de formule :



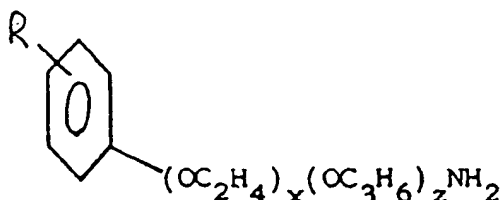
dans laquelle R représente un groupe alkyle comportant de 5 à 12 atomes de carbone, x varie de 3 à 15, z varie de 2 à 10 ; ou un sel de cette (alkylphénol éthoxylé et propoxylé) amine obtenu en faisant réagir cette dernière avec un acide organique.

2. Solution inhibitrice de corrosion dispersible dans l'eau, comprenant :  
de 0 % à 99 % en volume d'eau ;  
de 0.96 à 99 % en volume d'un alcool ; et caractérisée en ce qu'elle comprend de 1 % à 70 % en volume d'une (alkylphénol éthoxylé et propoxylé) amine de formule :



dans laquelle R représente un groupe alkyle comportant de 5 à 12 atomes de carbone, x varie de 3 à 15, et z varie de 2 à 10 ; ou un sel de ladite (alkylphénol éthoxylé et propoxylé) amine obtenu en faisant réagir cette dernière avec un acide organique.

3. Solution inhibitrice de corrosion selon la revendication 1 ou la revendication 2, caractérisée en ce que R représente un groupe alkyle comportant de 7 à 10 atomes de carbone, x varie de 4 à 11 et z varie de 2 à 5.
4. Solution inhibitrice de corrosion selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 3, caractérisée en ce que la concentration en l'amine est de 3 ppm à 200 ppm.
5. Solution inhibitrice de corrosion selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, caractérisée en ce que l'acide organique est choisi parmi l'acide hydroxyacétique, un acide gras, un acide dicarboxylique, un ester phosphate, un acide dimère - trimère et les mélanges de ceux-ci ; et en ce qu'on fait réagir l'acide organique et l'amine selon des proportions de 0,65/1 de l'acide à l'amine jusqu'à 1/0,6 de l'acide à l'amine.
6. Solution inhibitrice de corrosion selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, caractérisée en ce qu'on fait réagir l'acide et l'amine à une température supérieure à 75 °C.
7. Solution inhibitrice de corrosion selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, caractérisée en ce que l'acide organique est choisi parmi un acide dicarboxylique comportant de 19 à 23 atomes de carbone, un acide gras comportant de 16 à 20 atomes de carbone, un acide dimère - trimère comportant de 32 à 54 atomes de carbone, ou un ester phosphate comportant un groupe alkylphénol avec 2 à 20 groupes éthoxy.
8. Solution inhibitrice de corrosion selon la revendication 2, dans laquelle l'alcool est choisi parmi le méthanol, l'éthanol, le propanol, l'isopropanol, le butanol, le pentanol, l'éthylène glycol, le propylène glycol et les mélanges de ceux-ci.
9. Procédé de protection d'un métal contre des agents corrosifs dans des fluides hydrocarbonés et aqueux, selon lequel on met en contact le métal avec une quantité efficace d'un composé de formule :



dans laquelle R représente un groupe alkyle comportant de 5 à 12 atomes de carbone, x varie de 3 à 15, et z varie de 2 à 10, ou un sel de ce composé obtenu en le faisant réagir avec un acide organique.

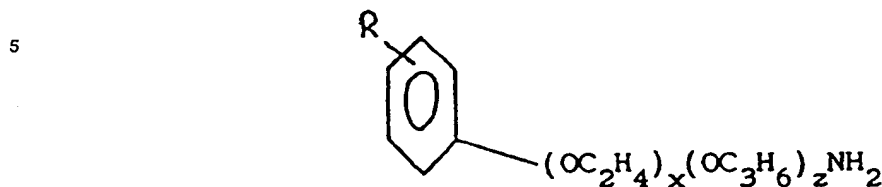
10. Procédé selon la revendication 9, caractérisé en ce que l'acide organique est choisi parmi l'acide hydroxyacétique, un acide gras, un acide dicarboxylique, un acide dimère-trimère, un ester phosphate et les mélanges de ceux-ci, et selon lequel on fait réagir l'acide organique et l'amine selon des proportions de 0,65/1 de l'acide à l'amine, jusqu'à 1/0,6 de l'acide à l'amine.
11. Procédé selon la revendication 9 ou 10, selon lequel le produit de réaction de l'acide avec l'amine est mélangé avec un fluide de sorte qu'une concentration de 3 ppm à 300 ppm du composé soit de manière continue en contact avec le métal.

## Patentansprüche

1. Wasserdispergierbare korrosionsinhibierende Lösung, die ein Lösungsmittel umfaßt und gekennzeichnet ist durch 2 ppm bis 1 Vol.-% eines ethoxylierten propoxylierten Alkylphenolamins, dargestellt durch

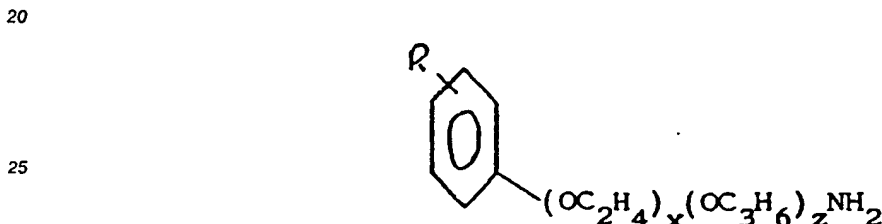


die Formel



in der R eine Alkylgruppe ist, die 5 bis 12 Kohlenstoffatome enthält, x gleich 3 bis 15 ist und z gleich 2 bis 10 ist; oder eines Salzes besagten ethoxylierten propoxylierten Alkylphenolamins, erhalten durch Reaktion desselben mit einer organischen Säure.

- 15
2. Wasserdispergierbare korrosionsinhibierende Lösung, die 0 bis 99 Vol.-% Wasser und 0 bis 99 Vol.-% eines Alkohols umfaßt und gekennzeichnet ist durch 1 bis 70 Vol.-% eines ethoxylierten propoxylierten Alkylphenolamins, dargestellt durch die Formel



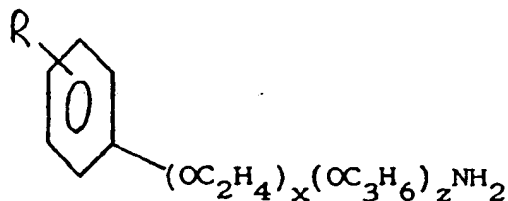
30 in der R eine Alkylgruppe ist, die 5 bis 12 Kohlenstoffatome enthält, x gleich 3 bis 15 ist und z gleich 2 bis 10 ist; oder eines Salzes besagten ethoxylierten propoxylierten Alkylphenolamins, erhalten durch Reaktion desselben mit einer organischen Säure.

- 35
3. Korrosionsinhibierende Lösung nach Anspruch 1 oder Anspruch 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß R eine Alkylgruppe ist, die 7 bis 10 Kohlenstoffatome enthält, x gleich 4 bis 11 ist und z gleich 2 bis 5 ist.
4. Korrosionsinhibierende Lösung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 3, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Konzentration besagten Amins 3 ppm bis 200 ppm ist.
- 40
5. Korrosionsinhibierende Lösung nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die organische Säure ausgewählt ist aus Hydroxyessigsäure, einer Fettsäure, einer Dicarbonsäure, einem Phosphatester, einer Dimer-Trimer-Säure und Gemischen derselben und daß besagte organische Säure und besagtes Amin in den Verhältnissen von 0,65/1 Säure zu Amin bis 1/0,6 Säure zu Amin umgesetzt worden sind.
- 45
6. Korrosionsinhibierende Lösung nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Säure und das Amin bei einer höheren Temperatur als 75° C umgesetzt worden sind.
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7. Korrosionsinhibierende Lösung nach einem der vorangehenden Ansprüche, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die organische Säure ausgewählt ist aus einer Dicarbonsäure mit 19 bis 23 Kohlenstoffatomen, einer Fettsäure mit 16 bis 20 Kohlenstoffatomen, einer Dimer-Trimer-Säure mit 32 bis 54 Kohlenstoffatomen oder einem Phosphatester mit einer Alkylphenolgruppe mit 2 bis 20 Ethylenoxidgruppen.
- 55
8. Korrosionsinhibierende Lösung nach Anspruch 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß der Alkohol ausgewählt ist aus Methanol, Ethanol, Propanol, Isopropanol, Butanol, Pentanol, Ethylenglykol, Propylenglykol und Gemischen derselben.

9. Verfahren zum Schutz eines Metalls vor korrodierenden Mitteln in kohlenwasserstoffhaltigen und



wäßrigen Flüssigkeiten, das das In-Kontakt-Bringen besagten Metalls mit einer wirksamen Menge einer Verbindung umfaßt, die dargestellt ist durch die Formel



in der R eine Alkylgruppe ist, die 5 bis 12 Kohlenstoffatome enthält, x gleich 3 bis 15 ist und z gleich 2 bis 10 ist, oder eines Salzes besagter Verbindung, erhalten durch Reaktion derselben mit einer organischen Säure.

10. Verfahren nach Anspruch 9, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die organische Säure ausgewählt ist aus Hydroxyessigsäure, einer Fettsäure, einer Dicarbonsäure, einer Dimer-Trimer-Säure, einem Phosphatester und Gemischen derselben und daß besagte organische Säuren und besagtes Amin in den Verhältnissen von 0,65/1 Säure/Amin bis 1/0,6 Säure zu Amin umgesetzt worden sind.

11. Verfahren nach Anspruch 9 oder 10, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß besagtes Säure/Amin-Reaktionsprodukt mit Flüssigkeit vermischt wird, so daß eine Konzentration von 3 ppm bis 300 ppm besagter Verbindung kontinuierlich mit dem Metall in Kontakt steht.

